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09/730,547	12/07/2000	Karim Nathoo	77666-6 /pw	9341

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EXAMINER

FIELDS, COURTNEY D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2137

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/22/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/730,547

Applicant(s)

NATHOO ET AL.

Examiner

Courtney D. Fields

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 January 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-55 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-55 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-55 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed on 05 January 2005 with respect to claims 1-55 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection, Ramsdell, "S/MIME Version 3 Certificate Handling" and "UniCERT | Policy Support: Operational Controls".

Allowable Subject Matter

3. The indicated allowability of claims 1-55 filed on 15 April 2005 are withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Asad et al. (US Patent No. 6,725,240) in view of Ramsdell, "S/MIME Version 3 Certificate Handling" and in view of "UniCERT | Policy Support: Operational Controls". Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Specification

4. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

5. The abstract is more than the recommended 50 to 150 words in length.

Appropriate correction is suggested.

6. The disclosure is objected to because it contains an embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code (See page 7 of the Specification). Applicant is required to delete the embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code. See MPEP § 608.01. Appropriate correction is suggested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

7. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

8. Claims 8,9,28, and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The claim language is vague and indefinite: "in accordance with X.500".

9. Claims 12,31, 43, and 52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The claim language (phrase) is vague and indefinite: "from time to time".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claims 1-7, 10-11, 13-27, 30, 32-42, 44-51, and 53-55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Asad et al. (US Patent No. 6,725,240) in view of Ramsdell "S/MIME Version 3 Certificate Handling" and in view of "UniCERT| Policy Support: Operational Controls.

Regarding claims 1, 37, and 46, Asad et al. discloses the invention substantially as claimed because Asad et al. teaches an apparatus and method for protecting against data tampering in audit subsystem, for creating and verifying audit logs in a relational database without compromising the ability to detect data tampering in a data processing system. Asad et al. does not disclose a record-user mapping or user-name addressable entity mapping. Asad et al. does not disclose maintaining a database having entries for all contact points for a certificate nor does Asad et al. disclose remote notification for each record that is to be performed.

However, Ramsdell "S/MIME Version 3 Certificate Handling" teaches and suggest setting up a certificate database in its simplest form to a particular user and a certificate database would function in a similar way as an address book. (See page 6, first full paragraph) Ramsdell teaches and suggests a database containing contact information for each certificate. Ramsdell further teaches and suggests the alternative

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name extension used in the S/MIME as the preferred means to convey the RFC-822 email address (es) that correspond to the entity for this certificate. (See page 9, Section 4.4.3) Ramsdell teaches and suggests that the contact information could be one or more email addresses corresponding to the certificate entity (e.g. owner (s)). Finally, Ramsdell teaches and suggests when processing certificates, there may be situations where the processing software should take immediate and noticeable steps to inform the end user about it (See page 10, first paragraph). Thus, although not directed to an audit, Ramsdell does teach and suggest that the "end user" be notified if problems with the certificate are discovered. (See page 10, first paragraph)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have Asad et al. implement data tampering in addition to the audit system according to the S/MIME standards, thereby allowing the remote notification of records to be discovered by the end users. (See page 10, first paragraph)

The combination of Asad et al. in view S/MIME does not teach the remote notification of an event by sending an email to all contact points notifying the owner(s) of an event.

"UniCERT | Policy Support : Operational Controls" teaches that when a certificate reaches the end of its validity period, it can no longer be validated. The subject needs a new certificate, or at a minimum should be informed that their certificate has expired and they should apply for a new certificate. An email message to be sent to the end user, a configurable number of days before the certificate expires (Page 2, paragraph

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entitled "Certificate Rollover") Thus, UniCERT specifically teaches and suggest the remote notification of a certificate event.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine UNiCERT and Ramsdell with Asad et al.'s teaching wherein the remote notification via email address(es) obtained from a certificate address book is sent to all recorded owners/aliases.

As per claims 2,21,38, and 48, the combination of Asad et al. in view of Ramsdell and UniCERT) discloses the claimed limitation wherein maintaining the user name-addressable entity mapping from each user name to the respective addressable entity (See Ramsdell, page 5, Section 3)

As per claims 3 and 22, the combination of Asad et al. in view of Ramsdell and UniCERT) discloses the claimed limitation wherein the user name-addressable entity mapping is a trusted mapping (See Ramsdell, page 6, first full paragraph)

As per claims 4,23,39, and 49, the combination of Asad et al. in view of Ramsdell and UniCERT) discloses the claimed limitation wherein perform remote notification of records generated by a certificate management system, wherein obtaining from a user name-addressable entity mapping a respective addressable entity comprises obtaining a respective addressable entity from a respective certificate stored in a repository of published certificates (See Ramsdell, page 6, first full paragraph and UniCERT, page 2, paragraph entitled "Certificate Rollover")

As per claims 13 and 32, the combination of Asad et al. in view of Ramsdell and UniCERT) discloses the claimed limitation wherein storing record reading parameters

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(API) which determine circumstances under which the new set of records for processing is to be obtained, and obtaining the new set of records for processing in accordance with the record reading parameters (See Asad et al., Column 7, lines 4-10)

As per claims 18, 19, 20, 44, and 45, the combination of Asad et al. in view of Ramsdell and UniCERT) discloses the claimed limitation wherein:

identifying at least one record identifier for which target audit record processing is to be performed, the target audit record processing comprising (See Asad et al., Column 8, lines 53-67, Column 9, lines 1-27)

for each record identifier for which target audit record processing is to be performed reading from the associated record a target user name, obtaining from the user name-addressable entity mapping a respective addressable entity for the target user name and sending a notification of the record to the addressable entity (See Ramsdell, page 5, Section 3)

As per claims 5, 24, 40, and 50, the combination of Asad et al. in view of Ramsdell and UniCERT) discloses the claimed limitation wherein the certificate management system comprises a PKI (Public Key Infrastructure) (See Ramsdell, page 1, Section 1)

As per claims 6, 25, 26, 41, and 47, the combination of Asad et al. in view of Ramsdell and UniCERT) discloses the claimed limitation wherein maintaining the repository of published certificates in which is stored for each of a plurality of a user names the respective certificate in which is identified the respective addressable entity (See Ramsdell, page 6, first full paragraph)

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As per claims 7,27,42, and 51, the combination of Asad et al. in view of Ramsdell and UniCERT) discloses the claimed limitation wherein the addressable entity is an E-mail address (See Ramsdell, page 5, Section 3)

As per claim 10, the combination of Asad et al. in view of Ramsdell and UniCERT) discloses the claimed limitation wherein each certificate storing the respective addressable entity in a certificate extension field of the certificate (See Ramsdell, page 9, Section 4.4.2)

As per claims 11 and 30, the combination of Asad et al. in view of Ramsdell and UniCERT) discloses the claimed limitation wherein storing the respective addressable entity in a certificate extension field of the certificate comprises storing the respective addressable entity in a subject alternative name extension (See Ramsdell, page 9, Section 4.4.3)

As per claims 14,15,33 and 34, the combination of Asad et al. in view of Ramsdell and UniCERT) discloses the claimed limitation wherein comprising protecting each notification message by encryption and/or digital signature (See Ramsdell, page 7, Section 4.2)

As per claims 16 and 35, the combination of Asad et al. in view of Ramsdell and UniCERT) discloses the claimed limitation wherein verifying authenticity of the respective certificate before sending the notification to the addressable entity obtained from the respective certificate (See UniCERT, page 2, paragraph entitled "Certificate Rollover")

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As per claims 17 and 36, the combination of Asad et al. in view of Ramsdell and UniCERT) discloses the claimed limitation wherein maintaining an identification of a language of choice for each user name, before sending a notification to an addressable entity obtained for a particular user name, determining the particular user name's language of choice and including a translation of text in the notification message into the language of choice (See Ramsdell, page 5, Section 3)

As per claims 53,54, 55, the combination of Asad et al. in view of Ramsdell and UniCERT) discloses the claimed limitation wherein instructions stored thereon for instructing a processing platform to implement a method (See Asad et al., Column 12, lines 17-24)

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Courtney D. Fields whose telephone number is 571-272-3871. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thurs. 6:00 - 4:00 pm; off every Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on 571-272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


cdf

March 15, 2007


EMMANUEL L. MOISE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER